

The Columbians

Fourth Number Entertainment Course.

Monarch Theatre

Friday night, Nov. 29, 8 p. m.

4-Girls-4

Presenting a program of Instrumental Music, Readings and Novelty Selections

FEATURING SAXAPHONES AND DRUMS

ADMISSION: Children, 30c. Adults 65c including War Tax
RESERVE SEAT TICKETS ON SALE AT ECONOMY CASH SHOE STOREComing! Coming!
Welcome, All!

For the past few weeks, largely through lack of time and space, The Times has neglected to give the list of new subscribers that are constantly coming in. For this reason it may be there is an idea in the mind of some that not many new subscribers are coming into The Times office. Not so. They are coming in every day, apparently in constantly increasing numbers. It is no longer any secret that The Times is one of the best county newspapers to be found anywhere in this splendid State, and the people generally are quick to find out such things. The following new subscribers have been placed on The Times subscription list the past week:

Vernon Doss of Farmington, J. W. Neel of Leadwood, R. L. Tillman of Webster Groves, Mo., Mrs. B. L. Beal of St. Louis, Judge J. S. Gossom of Caruthersville, J. W. Horn of Fresno, Calif., W. D. Long of Los Angeles, Calif., N. L. Rickard of Little Rock, Ark., H. S. Whitener of Batesville, Ark., J. A. McClintock, St. Louis.

Business Change
and Improvement

The change in the ownership of the garage, at the northeast corner of the square in this city, formerly owned by W. C. Robinson, has finally been perfected, the new owners having taken charge last week. The new owners, composed of Judge J. H. Orten, J. C. Williams, W. D. Druce and Lon Overall, expect soon to capitalize the company for \$6,000, and propose to very materially improve the present business.

This garage has perhaps the best location in this city for the conduct of a successful garage business. But, in addition to a garage, this company proposes to engage extensively in the retreading and rebuilding of tires, and Mr. Druce, one of the new owners, who will also be manager of the company, has already perfected and secured a patent on a plan for rebuilding tires which, it is claimed, has already been demonstrated to be a complete success. By this process, old tires can be worked over into new ones, that will stand equally as much usage as new tires will stand up under, and at a cost of little more than half the cost of a new tire.

The Times confidently expects to see this garage to take on renewed life and activity under its new management.

Responds to
Final Call

J. G. Williams received a message yesterday morning bearing the sad intelligence of the death of his father, Thomas Williams, which occurred Wednesday at his home in Danville, Ill. Deceased was a Civil War veteran, and formerly lived in this county, where many friends still remember him.

Mr. Williams for many years was a leading business man of this city, honored and trusted to a very unusual extent, and also served as banker to many of his customers.

A report comes from New York that a steamship arrived there Sunday bearing the largest amount of mail ever received from our soldiers in France. The shipment consisted of 4,600,000 letters that were going to the "home folks" for Thanksgiving Day.

DR. R. E. WALSH
DENTIST

Farmington, Realty Bldg. Phone 111. Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.
Flat River—Phone 572.
Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Better Dental Work; Painless Extractions.

Should Adopt a
Tangible Alarm

The fire at Dr. Smith's home last Saturday again demonstrated the very urgent need for a fire alarm that would indicate, as nearly as possible, the location of the fire. With the fire-fighters entirely composed of volunteers, as is the case in this city, firemen are expected to reach the fire in the shortest possible space of time. For that reason, leaving entirely out of consideration the general public—which has a weakness for attending fires, as well as often being able to render much assistance to the firemen, before, and often after the latter's arrival, principally, perhaps, in helping to remove contents from the burning building—the need for having a whistle that will, as nearly as possible, locate the fire, is of urgent importance.

The time that elapsed between the alarm and the arrival of the hose truck at Saturday's fire appeared to have been unnecessarily prolonged, though after the arrival of the fire-fighting paraphernalia the usual good and speedy work was accomplished and the flames were speedily subdued, even though they had obtained alarming headway unopposed. Just who was responsible for the unusual tardiness in the arrival of the hose cart is not known. It being just at the noon hour, when many were at dinner or on their way home, perhaps accounts for the delay, to a large extent at least, in the arrival of the fire workers.

But that fire made it plainly apparent that there is urgent need for a fire alarm which will denote the location of the fire, as nearly as possible—at least the ward. The Times editor had always supposed that the elaborate and protracted fire-alarm whistle conveyed to the ear of the initiated the exact location of the fire. But we have been informed since last Saturday's fire that no such information is so conveyed, and that all anyone can get out of that prolonged and heart-breaking screech is that there is a fire somewhere in Farmington. It does not so much as indicate the ward, which is generally supposed to be indicated by the first alarm.

The plan of procedure in handling a fire alarm, as The Times has been able to get the information, is that when the alarm is telephoned into central, together with the location of the fire, central immediately notifies the power house, where the alarm is sounded. Central is also supposed to immediately call up the Mayberry, Byington & Tullock stables, where the hose cart is kept, notifying of the location of the fire, in order that the driver of the hose-cart could find the fire. Formerly there was also a fire alarm at fire headquarters, which central was supposed to ring by pressing a button in the telephone office, but for some reason that alarm was removed some time ago.

It is the feeling of many citizens that the city council should at once take action for the improvement of fire alarms, so that all who desired could tell from such signals at least what ward the fire is in. It is most important that all possible speed should be used in getting workers to a fire, and the method of alarm could be so simply and plainly arranged that it would give some information as to the location of the fire. Is this matter not of sufficient importance to recommend itself to the favorable attention of the city fathers?

CHILDREN BUY RILEY STATUETTE
BY "SWIMMIN' HOLE" SALES.

Greenfield, Ind.—School children from all parts of the United States, some from Hawaii, and a few from Japan, paid tribute to the memory of James Whitcomb Riley, poet, when a life-sized statuette of the Indiana writer was unveiled here to-day. Greenville was the birthplace of Riley.

The statuette was made possible by funds raised through the schools by the sale of pictures of "Ole Swimmin' Hole," reproduced from a painting several years ago by William Bixier, an artist of Anderson, Ind. One of Riley's poems made the "Ole Swimmin' Hole" famous. It is estimated that more than 1,000,000 school children have contributed in one form or another to the fund which paid for the statuette.

Mrs. Reynolds Richards of Indianapolis made the statuette.

Auditor's Office Praises Management of Farmington State Hospital

The following special, which appeared in St. Louis dailies the last of the week, under a Farmington date line, but confirms the several reports that have recently appeared in The Times concerning the exceptionally efficient management of that excellent institution. This is but another proof of The Times' assertion that the State Hospital in this city far outranks all other State eleemosynary institutions, at least in its excellent management:

"The affairs of State Hospital No. 4 at Farmington are handled in an economical and efficient manner, reflecting credit on Superintendent J. L. Eaton, according to the report of the State Auditor's office, made public today. An audit of the books and accounts of the institution by O. P. Caulfield, John Batholomaeus and L. D. Thompson revealed proper business methods, the report says. The finding of the auditors follows:

"We found contracts for purchases properly signed and authorized by board minutes. We were able to trace all receipts from private and county

patients, for board, clothing and sundries, and the payment of same to the State Treasurer. We were also able to trace receipts from the State Auditor of all moneys drawn from the earnings fund and appropriations and their proper expenditure as requisitioned.

"We found receipts and disbursements of the steward's account in excellent condition, all receipts from sales being accounted for, and disbursements properly authorized and booked.

"In our examination of the general disbursements, we found duplicate invoices authorized by the board for all expenditures. We were shown canceled checks covering all disbursements.

"The accounts of the institution are excellently handled by the secretary, being in condition for ready and rapid checking, and perfect in accuracy. In general, we find the affairs of the institution handled in an economical and efficient manner, reflecting credit on the superintendent in charge."

Will Open Up
New Law Office

Frank W. Carter, who for the past twelve years has been vice-president of the Mercantile Trust Co., of St. Louis, has resigned that position with the announced purpose of opening a law office in this city, taking in to partnership his son, and the title of the new firm will be Carter & Carter.

His action in resigning the vice-presidency of the Mercantile Trust Co. was deeply regretted by Rolla Wells, the President, and many other financial associates, but as he still retains his membership in the Board of Directors of that institution, such resignation does not mean his complete severance there.

Mr. Carter is known as one of the ablest lawyers in this state, but his principal reason for making this change is to assist his son to a better opportunity in life. While Mr. Carter has not lived in this city for a number of years, Farmington still claims him as her own, and his many warm friends here unite in wishing him both success and satisfaction in this change of work.

Eugene Morris
Accidentally Shot

The sad intelligence was received here Tuesday evening of the killing of Eugene Morris, the 13-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Morris, at his home in Benton, Ill. The shooting was done by Eugene's companion and chum, Carl Werner, a youth of 16 years. The boys were returning from a hunting trip when the sad accident occurred. Young Werner was walking a little in the advance, with a shotgun over his shoulder, when the gun was in some manner discharged, the entire load of small shot striking Eugene in the face, at close quarters.

The boy's father, Clarence Morris, was in Farmington only last week, in attendance at the funeral of his father, B. I. Morris. Mrs. J. H. Radle, an aunt of the dead boy, received a long distance message Wednesday morning, stating that the mother had broken down from the intense shock, and was in a critical condition.

JOHN J. MITCHELL
CHICAGO RAIL CHIEF
FOR U. S. CONTROL

Chicago, November 26—John J. Mitchell, president of the Illinois Trust and Savings Company, and a director on four railroad boards, among them the Pennsylvania, has reached the conclusion that Government ownership and operation of railroads furnishes the only adequate solution of the situation. He said to-day:

Events which have taken place since the period of the war have led me to change completely my views toward Government control or ownership of railroads and transportation utilities. I was opposed to such a proposition in the beginning, but now believe that the salvation of the railroads lies in Government ownership.

"A revision of the properties to the original owners would mean a kind of chaos and inability to meet the conditions of labor, railroad credits and rates. The people as a whole will stand more from the Government or municipality than from private ownership of the transportation properties.

"There is in the air a spirit bred by the war, and special events in Europe that cannot be ignored, and it points toward Government and municipal ownership or control. This view of the railroad situation you will find in general among the conservative railroad interests of the West. We have all been obliged to change our opinions because of the changed conditions."

The local in last week's Times stating that Circuit Clerk-elect J. C. Heifner had purchased the C. P. Wilkison place, was in error in stating that the place is now occupied by Mrs. Cover. The family of J. A. Kite is now residing there, but will soon vacate, and Mr. and Heifner and family will move in.

Disastrous Fire at
Dr. Smith's Home

At 12 o'clock, noon, last Saturday the whistle sounded a fire alarm, and immediately, from a large part of town, the fire was located by a dense volume of smoke shooting skyward from near the electric line where it turns north on A street. As the populace began to gather, flames broke through the roof of Dr. O. A. Smith's splendid two-story residence, and as the crowds rapidly gathered workers became numerous and did splendid work in saving furniture from the first floor of what appeared to be a doomed residence. Practically everything on the first floor was removed before the hose-cart arrived and water was turned on, after which the flames were suppressed in an incredibly short time.

Dr. Smith, who is in Uncle Sam's service, was at Camp Pike, Ark., and Mrs. Smith, who was sick, was removed to Mrs. Cover's home, about a block away. Harry, the 16-year-old son, was the only other member of the family at home. Dinner was being served when the fire was discovered by a neighbor, who turned in the alarm, so that there was quite a gathering of people before the Smith family became aware that their home was burning. While practically everything left in the house was destroyed by fire and water, it is possible that the house might be repaired as it stands.

The married son, Laurence, who is also in navy service, and his wife also had considerable furniture and useful and valuable articles packed and stored in the attic, which was flooded and filled with valuable property. The cause of the fire is a mystery, though the most plausible theory that has been advanced is that it started from electric wiring. The house was heated by furnace, and the fire started in the attic. Dr. Smith carried \$2,500 insurance on the house, and \$1,000 on contents, which will not nearly cover the actual loss.

Public Schools
Not Yet Open

It was thought the latter part of last week that the influenza situation was so much improved that it would be advisable to re-open school Monday morning. Handbills, announcing the re-opening of school, were printed and distributed. Sunday, however, several new cases of influenza developed, so it was thought best to rescind the previous order of re-opening. A rush order of handbills was printed, to this effect, and were distributed Monday morning early. Only a few pupils were not informed that school would not open, and consequently, only a few reported.

We have received no information as to when school will begin, but due notice will be given when the situation is such that it is advisable to open school.

LABOR SHOULD CONTINUE ON
WAR BASIS, WALSH SAYS

Washington, November 27—Frank P. Walsh, joint chairman of the National War Labor Board, said in a statement made public tonight that labor must not be expected to return to the pre-war basis of wages and working hours. The only hope for a safe, orderly national development, he declared, is in the maintenance of present wage levels and continuous improvement of working conditions.

Investigations conducted by the War Labor Board, Walsh said, show that the lowest possible wage on which a worker and his family can subsist in health and reasonable comfort is 7 1/2 cents an hour based on the eight-hour day. These same inquiries, he asserted, revealed that before the war the great majority of the laborers were earning for below the amount necessary for a "decent and healthy family existence."

Walsh predicted that there will be no return to the pre-war level of costs of necessities with in five years, at least, and said that even with the reduction in living costs the present wage standing must be maintained for then "the workers in the average industry will be receiving only a fair return for their work."

"Flu"—The
Black Death

Under the above heading, Howard S. Eckles, the renowned Philadelphia undertaker and embalmer, writes an interesting article on the epidemic that is still ravaging the country. He is an authority in his line of business, and his opinion in this matter is worthy of careful consideration. His definition of the Spanish Influenza as being in reality "The Black Death," which has ravaged portions of the earth at different periods as far back as history goes, may be really true. The following are extracts from his article:

Regardless of what death certificates say, the embalmer who has handled many of the cases in the recent epidemic knows that they are different from any he has dealt with before this visitation. I know that I have found them so.

During the past four weeks, several thousands of bodies have been embalmed under my direct supervision as special representative of the Council of National Defense in charge of this work in Philadelphia. Not only did nearby members of the Purple Cross respond promptly and heartily, but the War Department, at the request of the Mayor of Philadelphia, detailed to the Purple Cross a number of its members who were stationed at neighboring camps and cantonments. I have done enough of this work personally during this period and posted enough bodies to be thoroughly acquainted with the post-mortem symptoms, which resemble and probably are identical with those which history gives us of the Black Plague.

The epidemic already in six weeks has cost America five times as many lives as we have lost on the battlefields of Europe. Apparently, it is not the result of any one specific germ.

It is not Influenza; it is not Asiatic Cholera; it is not Bubonic Plague; it is not Pneumonia—although it frequently causes pneumonia, or at least a condition closely resembling it.

It is the Black Plague of the Middle Ages, which so often in the past has swept the world.

It is caused by a cross-breeding of bacteria in unembalmed bodies carelessly buried in ground which later is churned and re-churned by the tramp of armies and the hail of shells, as the lines alternately advance and retreat.

Those who have handled bodies during the present epidemic will quickly recognize in their appearance all symptoms identifying the disease with the great Black Plague of history, which heretofore has been ascribed, most generally, to either cholera or Bubonic Plague.

A careful examination of many thousands of bodies dead in this epidemic has, however, revealed the germs of neither of these diseases nor of influenza. These have long since been perfectly identified and their shape and characteristics noted.

The first modern outbreak of the present epidemic of Black Plague occurred on the Russian and Austrian fronts on land which had been fought over two or three times and where the churning of shells was constantly exposing to the air bodies in which the bacteria had had a chance to germinate.

This outbreak did not occur on the western front with any great degree of virulence until last spring, when the Germans again swept over the land which the Allies just now are recovering and which is being fought over for the fourth time in as many years.

That in a great degree it is preventable is certain, but the only method of prevention which possibly can be effective is to attack the disease at its source—in the body of the newly dead. America now is paying the penalty of its delay in accepting the Purple Cross offer to embalm the bodies of those killed on the field of battle or dying in the service of the nation. Had embalming been done, all germs in those bodies would have been destroyed instead of being left to grow, multiply, mingle and cross-breed, later to be released by the fighting or by seepage to ravage the earth.

There is no question but that complete saturation with a modern and scientific embalming fluid will absolutely destroy the germs of disease, and there is no question that had this been done from the beginning of the advent of American troops on the western front, conditions would have been very much ameliorated, and if the American example had been followed by the Allies, that the epidemic would have been absolutely prevented.

It first attained virulence in this country in army cantonments and naval bases, and had really passed its climax in each of these before it attacked the civilian population.

Many thousands are dead as a result!

What a different tale we might have had to tell had the Purple Cross been authorized to act, the embalmer officially recognized, and our profession given the governmental consideration its importance entitles it to.

J. Edw. Brewer, the recently elected Collector of St. Francois County, last week purchased the splendid home of Mrs. Cover, corner of A and Doss streets. This place was sold at a bargain price, \$3,500, as Mrs. Cover was selling off her personal property, preparatory to moving East to be with her children, and made a remarkably low price on the place for a quick sale, which was consummated through W. N. Fleming. Mr. Brewer and family will move from Doe Run to their new home shortly.

Our Heartfelt
Thanksgiving

This year the people of the whole United States, as well as the people of the entire world, have more reason than they have ever had before in the world's history, for sincere and heartfelt praise and rejoicing.

This thanksgiving is more than an American observance; the spirit of today's festival spans the continents. The whole world is rejoicing for it has been vouchsafed the greatest of all gifts to man—Freedom.

After more than four years of bloody strife against the imperious tyranny of those who would have ruled their brothers with the sword, the nations of the earth have emerged triumphantly victorious against their would-be enslavers. America's part in the struggle was the determining factor that swung the pendulum toward Liberty. For that especially we should be thankful.

Above all things, we should be grateful to the Lord on High for granting us the victories of war and the blessings of peace.

We should be thankful to our young men whose fine spirit of sacrifice and patriotic devotion made the passing of militarism possible.

We should be thankful for the great hearts of the people at home whose labor, no less than those of the lads in the trenches, brought us the decision.

We should be thankful that America, made up of the races of the world, met the shock of the war, a united and coherent nation.

We should be thankful to the President of the United States, whose steady guiding hand helped lead us safely and triumphantly through the mazes of intrigue and the cataclysm of war.

We should be thankful for the fine spirit of France that kept the beast at bay until the rest of our people made it possible for us to feed the starving millions abroad, clothed, and shelter them.

We should be thankful that our boys are soon coming home to us, that our families will be re-united and that the peaceful pursuits of the country will soon be under full headway again.

We should be thankful that the soldiers who lay buried in France died for a cause that will endure their memories to God and man. There can be no more sublime ending to life than death cheerfully met that others might live in freedom.

For these things we should be thankful, but let us not grow too proud of our achievements. In the great war, now happily over, America did its duty to mankind and nothing more. Let us remember that in the midst of our rejoicings over the new light of freedom that is flashing into nook and cranny of God's world.

Many Witnesses
Airplane Flights

Fred Butterfield and his companion, Lieut. Schrubbe, both of Scott Field, who flew to Farmington last Thursday, mention of which was made in The Times last week, returned to Scott Field Friday afternoon.

They left the Clardy farm, where they had landed the evening before, shortly after one o'clock. They reached the proper altitude and soared over town several times at a good rate of speed. On one round when the plane was near Mr. Butterfield's home they dipped down to within a few hundred feet of the ground, but did not light. After circling the town again they attempted to land in the Doss field, but could not do so on account of the crowd, and were forced to alight in the large field back of R. P. Taylor's home.

A large crowd gathered round the plane after it had alighted. Mr. Butterfield and his companion went to the former's home where they remained until about 2:30, when they came back to the field to start back to Belleville. They had some engine trouble, which was caused by using a different brand of gasoline from that they had been using, and were delayed some time in starting. After the engine trouble was remedied a start was made and the plane, after circling a few times, struck off in a northwesterly direction for Belleville.

Times Overcomes
Serious Handicap

The Times has been very seriously handicapped this week, owing to the sickness with influenza of Mrs. Edgar Zolman, which fact has caused Edgar to feel that he should keep himself somewhat secluded, in order to evade all possibility of spreading the disease.

However, The Times emergency only uncovered the latent talent of Edgar's helper, Burdette Johns, who has exhibited considerable skill in the manipulation of the key-board of the Mergenthaler, and has caused sufficient type to "string up" to get to press on time, which also means that the paper is placed in the hands of subscribers at about the usual hour.

And yet The Times force enjoyed a half holiday yesterday to digest their dinner. So things are still "smiling." Mrs. Zolman is getting along nicely, and Edgar will probably be able to return to work next Monday.

Attendance at Sunday School and church services Sunday was small.